The Lancet Journal eulogizes the late Prof. Saidi

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The Lancet Journal has eulogized the late Prof. Saidi Hassan who passed on aged 52 years.

Prof. Saidi, died of cancer on 29th August, 2017 in Nairobi. Until his death, Prof. Saidi was the Chairman of the Department of Human Anatomy at the College of Health Sciences, University of Nairobi.
Below is Prof. Saidi's eulogy by The Lancet Journal:


Saidi Hassan was a teacher, but also a lifelong student, completing a doctorate in surgery from the University of Nairobi just last year. Colleagues said he was not pursuing education for its own sake, but for the opportunity to improve his skills and to acquire knowledge he could share. “He had an idea of impacting others”, said Daniel Ojuka, a lecturer in the University of Nairobi's Department of Surgery. “His interest was in developing people.”

Peter Gichangi, an Associate Professor in the University of Nairobi's Department of Human Anatomy, said Hassan had that impulse from an early age. Hassan and Gichangi attended medical school together at the University of Nairobi in the 1980s, where they were both selected for special training in human anatomy. Over the course of the training, Gichangi said Hassan was constantly thinking about how the course could be improved for future students. “By the time he finished, he was convinced that we need people who have a clinical background to teach anatomy”, Gichangi said, reflecting his concerns that the people teaching the course only had academic experience. “It would mean that the clinician would present the anatomy in a manner that makes sense to a person who finally becomes a doctor. That drove him to join the department and teach anatomy from the perspective of a clinician”, Gichangi said.

Continue reading the eulogy here. [8]

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